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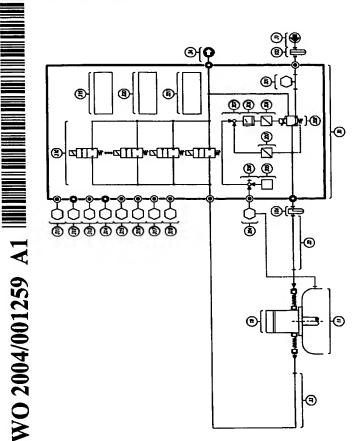
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MULTIFONCTIONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE FOR A MECHANICAL SEAL AND CONTROL AND MANAGE-MENT PROCESS REALISED BY SUCH DEVICE



(57) Abstract: Multifunctional electronic device (30) based on a microprocessor for checking and managing all operating and diagnostic conditions of a mechanical seal (10, 20). A mechanical seal, installed on pumps or process machines (11, 21), comprises two coupled surfaces, one rotating and integral with a shaft and one stationary and integral with the or machine in which the shaft is inserted; these two surfaces are kept in contact through combined forces: a mechanical force generated by springs and another hydraulic force generated by the pressure of a fluid and suitably controlled by a pressure regulator (103, 202, 302). The electronic device regulates the pressurization of a mechanical seal to variable pressure values, keeping the optimum difference (305) constant between pressure (303) inside the mechanical seal and pressure (304) in the pump delivery line or inside the process machine in which the seal is installed.





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PCT/IT 03/00154 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 F16J15/34 G01M G01M13/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 F16J G01M Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Α WO 01 40756 A (PECHT GLENN G ; CRANE JOHN 1-5,11, INC (US); WILLIAMSON GUY GARDNER (US)) 14,16, 7 June 2001 (2001-06-07) 17, 21-24. 27-32 page 5, line 1 -page 6, line 23 page 11, line 21 -page 14, line 24; claims 21-32 Α US 4 792 911 A (SNUTTJER OWEN R ET AL) 1-7,10, 20 December 1988 (1988-12-20) 11,13, 16,17, 21-33, 35,36 the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. X Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but died to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the ad-\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means \*P\* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed \*&\* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 4 July 2003 11/07/2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nt, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Sbaihi, M



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